Daily wage of tea-garden workers

826. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the present daily wage of permanent tea-garden workers in different States;

(b) whether the Government have any plan to raise the minimum wage of tea-garden workers in view of present price escalation; and

(c) whether Government would take steps to provide wages to workers in holidays like Sundays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) A statement indicating minimum rates of wages in the schedule employment of 'Tea-Plantation' in various States is enclosed *(See* below).

(b) The State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages for tea-garden workers. The minimum wages are inclusive of Variable Dearness Allowance, wherever provision exists, which is linked to Consumer Price Index.

(c) The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 deals with working hours in any plantation. According to the provisions of this law no adult worker shall be required or allowed to work in excess of forty-eight hours in any week or for more than 9 hours in any day. In case a worker is made to work for more than 9 hours in a day or 48 hours in a week, he/she is entitled to receive wages twice the rates of ordinary wages.

Statement

Rates of minimum wages in the Scheduled Employment of "Tea Plantation" in various States/Union Territories as on 1.1.99

SI. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territories	Range of Minimum rates of Wages (Rs. per day)
1.	Assam	28.35 - 61.52
2.	Bihar	51.01 - 52.31
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	38.00 - 55.00
4.	Daman & Diu	60.00 - 80.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	36.00
6.	Karnataka	50.78
7.	Kerala	62.33
8.	Nagaland	25.00
9.	Tamil Nadu	45.65 - 47.90
10.	Tripura	20.63
11.	Uttar Pradesh	42.02*

*as on 1997

Periodical review of wages

827. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken or proposed to take to enforce uniform rate of wages and periodical review of wages in respect of labour/unorganized labour in rural areas; and

(b) when was the wage revised last in Orissa and State-wise rate of wages prescribed for rural labour as on 31st December, 1999?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Central Government has been issuing guidelines/instructions from time to time to all the State/UT Governments for reducing the disparities in minimum wages in different States/regions. There are